



National Park Service
U.S. Department of the Interior

Sequoia & Kings Canyon
National Parks

47050 Generals Highway
Three Rivers, CA 93271

559 565-3341 phone
559 565-3730 fax

Sequoia & Kings Canyon National Parks Fire Update

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Jody Lyle (559) 565-3703

Burning to Reduce Hazard Fuels in Sequoia National Park

Over the next six weeks, National Park Service fire crews will be working on the Ash Mountain hazard fuel reduction project in Sequoia National Park (between 1,700 and 3,000 feet in elevation). This project includes mechanical treatments (cutting brush and weeds) as well as igniting prescribed fires.

As part of this project, crews will ignite two burns tomorrow in the Buckeye Housing Area near Sequoia National Park's entrance station on Highway 198. The burns should be finished by the early afternoon.

The overall project consists of eleven small segments (averaging one to two acres) between the park entrance station and Hospital Rock Picnic Area. Some segments are burned each year and others are on a biannual rotation. Ignitions will occur when conditions are favorable during June and July or until the segments are complete.

The segments are strategically located near park buildings, residences, and high-use picnic areas. By reducing fuels in these areas, the parks hope to prevent the spread of any accidental fires that might threaten people and structures.

In all segments, the ground fuel is grass and scattered brush, which burns quickly and produces smoke for very short periods. Ignition days will be coordinated with the San Joaquin Valley Unified Air Pollution Control District.

-- www.nps.gov/seki/fire/fireinfo/current.htm --